contra FLOW

raking the muck

AUGUST /SEPT 1995
FREE
56a INFOSHOP
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LONDON SE17
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Police Reclaim the Streets

In our last issue, we mentioned the police attack and arrests made at the end of the first Reclaim The Streets party in Camden. It was interesting to us that most people who attended the event were completely unaware of the injuries and prisoners resulting from that attack and everyone thought that the event passed off so well. With dubious inevitability, our report from the second Reclaim The Streets on 23rd July in Angel, Islington features a more vicious re-run of the first action. From reading about it in the national daily paper, you wouldn't know that at 8.15pm, riot cops (the Territorial Support Groups - TSG's) attacked the last 150 of the crowd at Angel and pushed it, via truncheon charges, all the way to Kings Cross. You wouldn't read that 50 minutes before the charge, at least 18 vans of TSG officers were parked up near Upper Street, a seemingly lot of tooled-up coppers for the afternoon's very laid-back action. Cop camera teams were everywhere, on buildings and in the line of riot cops, filming people, replaying the tape then and there and sending in snatch squads to arrest chosen people. At the bottom of Pentonville Rd, the crowd was lead by a series of calls into Northdown St (us or them? - it seemed a dumb place for the crowd to turn into with Kings Cross right up ahead), where vans and cops, already waiting, blocked in the crowd. Those detained were searched and released in small amounts. It was a massacre really with 13 folks eventually charged and two people in Brixton prison awaiting bail.

WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COP'S BREATH

*contra*FLOW doesn't condemn anyone who tries to resist police attack, in fact we've nailed our colours to the fluffies head in previous issues, but this time there just wasn't the numbers or the time for sussing out tactics and the cops were totally prepared for it seeing as they obviously wanted a public order situation. It was certainly clear that they waited a long, long time before attacking the crowd. It suggests, where one minute a line of 'normal' cops is directing a crowd down the road, to the sudden arrival and baton charge of the TSG's, that the whole cop operation was a set-up whose purpose can only be guessed at. Where they just pissed off that we blocked the Angel all day and partied? Were they sending a message to us that we shouldn't expect to do it again? Do they just want to spoil our fun and get in a bit of live public order training? Or are they really just sussed that a few hardcore lurk around seeing if there's any chance of a ruck and they want to make sure they film and photograph them all. Extensive film and video was shot by the piggly-wigglies of people doing stuff and of individuals who were trying to help those being arrested. *contra*FLOW is super-interested in receiving any decent info or analysis of what the cops are up to, hand in hand with private security firms, concerning the dramatic increase in surveillance they've been doing on us at demos and actions. It's becoming standard for the cops to detain people at demos, photo albums in their hands with pictures from the Welling and Hyde Park riots, looking for suspects. Remember! and this may well keep you out of prison - **Never do anything at a riot without being masked up.**

L.D.M.G - will keep us free !

On the day, absolutely brilliant work was done by the **Legal Defence And Monitoring Group**, who acted as legal observers and were well in the thick of the police attack, making notes and trying to help those being arrested. This group is an inspiration to us all, offering unconditional support and aid to those arrested at actions. They are continuing to help those nicked at the first Street Party who's cases come to court in August and October. They always need money for the Bust Fund and volunteers to act as observers.

Resistance isn't just about those on the outside, it's about supporting those who get imprisoned along the way. Such common sense now seems to be penetrating the radical Green movement. Until all are free, we are all imprisoned - you know the slogan! Contact: ***LDMG, BM Box Haven, London, WC1N 3XX. Tel 0181 802 9804.***

'NEW ROAD LAYOUT'

The Reclaim The Streets party itself was brilliantly organised, the roads blocked and banners hung quite miraculously efficiently, with up to 2000 people partying all day to sound systems, live acts and a huge deposit of sand was dumped in the car-free, exhaust-free road making a great kids play area. It was good to see something extraordinary for once and it certainly was that. A road sign someone brought and erected at the party, reading 'CHANGED PRIORITIES AHEAD' seemed to sum up the entire event and the determination to make our lives something worth living. The next Street Party will be huge...keep 'em peeled.
Reclaim The Streets, 2 Crossway, London N16.

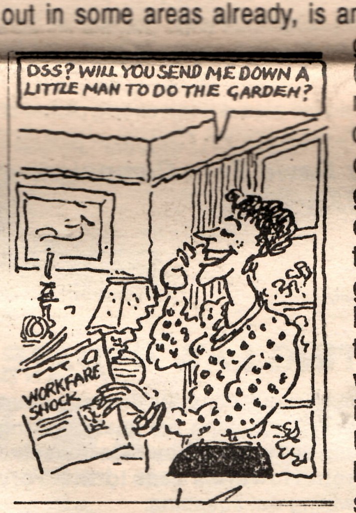
ACTIVELY GETTING WORSE

The merging of the Dept of Unemployment into the Dept for Education certainly sums up the attitude of this government toward the unemployed. With the forthcoming Job Seekers Allowance we can be under threat of suspension for not dressing or looking right - ring any bells? It is also quite appropriate that the merger will result in a massive loss of jobs.

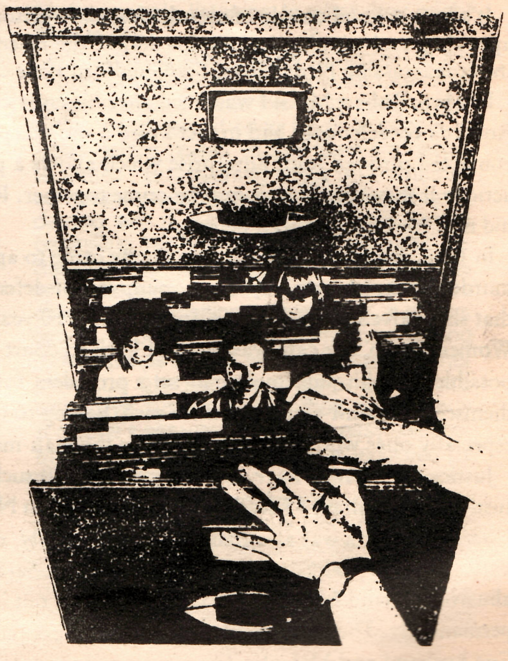
For years the government line has been training, flexibility and work experience are the way to a bright new future. And the more trained and flexible a workforce the bosses have been able to get hold of, the less workers they need, the more free work "experience", the less paid work. The head of the new department now wants to shepherd 14 year-olds into the workplace, to push more waged workers out. Of course training schemes have helped some people - if you pick up enough newspeak you can probably get a job running a training scheme (but you might not get paid as the TECs, the quangos set up to handle and privatise training funds, are starting to go bankrupt). It certainly hasn't helped those on benefits, forced off benefits, pushed into crap jobs or "self-employment', who are obviously worse off. Nor has it helped most people in comparatively decent jobs who are now also doing the jobs of laid-off colleagues, with pay and conditions squeezed by the threat of competition from the unemployed, contractors etc. But that's the whole point.

JOB SHIRKERS ALLIANCE

The Job Seekers Allowance (not to be confused with the New Seekers Allowance, for which you have to be in a crap band that hasn't worked for years), now due in next October but being tried out in some areas already, is another tightening of the screw, giving benefits staff more power (and pressure) to decide we're not "actively seeking work" and cut off our money, to push us onto pointless schemes and generally fuck up our lives. Most of us have better things to do than apply for jobs we're not going to get, and many of us have better things to get on with than anything that's on offer. So what are we going to do about it?


DSS? WILL YOU SEND ME DOWN A LITTLE MAN TO DO THE GARDEN?
WORKFARE SHOCK

Up to now most of us have got by through a combination of standing up for ourselves and going along with their crap when necessary. But as things get tightened and more arbitrary we're going to have to fight harder and together. We're going to have to show that we're not going to take this crap, to cause a fuss together whenever someone gets forced off benefits or threatened, to hassle those responsible (its been suggested that we design an "actively being human" test for politicians, dole office managers etc.), to collectively take the piss, signing on in appalling 70s suits, dressing as clowns because there happens to be a card for clowns in the Job Centre (don't know how it got there). We also need to take action against low paying businesses in our area, link with workers whose jobs we might be forced to actively seek..........



On an individual level we're all going to have to work out what rights we have left and use them. Leaflets and posters are being prepared and will need to get out everywhere (maybe its best not to leaflet where you sign on, but if the leaflets say "by the way, if you know of any jobs going let me know" they can't say you're not trying). 4 contact points around London are being set up and coordination around the country is slowly coming together, but we need local bases so we can start fighting now, against the current hassles as well as the proposed increase.

ANTI-JSA NETWORK IN LONDON:
South London contact: Box JSA, 121 Railton Rd, London, SE24 0LR.
North London: c/o Haringey Solidarity Grp, PO Box 2474, N8 0HW.
East & West London contacts still being sorted.

who says we're incapable?

On July 11th, a group of people with disabilities, working under the name Incapacity Action, pelted Peter Lilley with eggs,outside Balham D.S.S in South London, in protest at the new Incapacity Benefit, which is replacing sickness benefit and invalidity benefit. To get IB, claimants will have to pass a test to show that they're incapable of working. The assessment is carried out through awarding points for particular questions about ability, and can be checked by one of their own doctors, who is quite likely not to be experienced in such matters.

The change was introduced in with hysteria about "scroungers" and doctors supposedly willing to sign people as sick when they're not, but as well as just another attempt to save money and force people of benefits, this is a complete (deliberate) misunderstanding of what disability entails. The new system returns to viewing disability in purely medical terms, as an accumulation of points, instead of recognising disability as a social question, a question of experience and of people being disabled by social conditions. The question is simply whether someone would be capable of carrying out work, ignoring whether they would be able to get there, the massive prejudice of employers, the non-availability of appropriate facilities and support at the workplace etc. The new system also denies people with disabilities the right to decide what treatment is best for them, as they can be cut off for not taking what the doctor considers helpful, or for having become incapable of work through their own "misconduct".

getting your money

As the benefit is dependent on how you fill in the form its best to get advice from people in the know. Staff have been told they're not allowed to help or make suggestions. Many people like to be positive about what they can do, but this can get you cut off. Remember, you have to score enough points to get the benefit, and that the questionnaire is about working, not about what you can do on a good day, but what you could have to do 5 days a week for the rest of your life.

You will have to score either 15 points in the physical and sensory incapacity test or 10 in the mental health test, or 6 points in both. The points system is available so you can work out what you need to be able to pass. The physical section is divided into different functions and you only get one score for each, but it is possible to get the necessary 15 points for one function.

If you get sent to one of their doctors, ask them about their experience and qualifications, and point out that you know a lot more about your situation than they ever could.

For more details about getting your money and fighting back, contact Incapacity Action at Box 9, 136-138 kingsland High St, London E8.

INSIDE: ***this Sizzling issue...***

- ***tubetalk • calendar***
- ***sex & south london streetlife***
- ***news • views • plenty of abuse***

"IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF WHAT CONTRAFLOW CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR CONTRAFLOW." *(no apologies to J.F.K)*

(i.e latest contraFLOW blurb)

we've cut our usual rant by two-thirds, so be thankful
- send us news (via post and fax) and decent graphics too.
- exchange your paper for ours. (It 'll be archived at the Infoshop)
- distribute copies locally at gigs, demos, workplaces, libraries - collect copies from 121, 56a or 75a (addresses in contacts section) or write to us
- send SAE(s) [1SAE = one copy] for your next issue(s)-
- give us your spare money (thanks for 60 quid in donations folks!)
- donate ripped off supplies to our office - we always need stamps, ink cartridges for Mac Stylewriter II or HP Deskwriter 310, computer discs, fax rolls (to fit Telecom BT75) , modems, a working PC (286 or above), copier paper and a small copier. It's your job to steal things from work, remember.
- contraFLOW available on tape or large-print version for visually impaired persons. Write to us.

I WILL BE FREE...

It's been a good couple of months for some prisoners (hooray!!) with several long-termers appealing and winning and all this despite the recent shutting down on prisoners appeals after the embarrassing Birmingham Six/Guildford Four cases.

In May, Robert McGill was freed after his conviction for murder was quashed. Although Robert's co-defendant had in fact killed a shopkeeper in a bungled robbery, Robert was convicted through Joint Enterprise which allows a person to be charged with a co-defendants actions if they agreed to commit a crime together. Robert had no intention to kill anyone and did not. Now he has been believed.

In June, Emma Humphries case finally came to appeal. At the time of her conviction for the murder of her abusive boyfriend / pimp in self-defence, she was so confused and traumatised that she waived the right to an appeal. After 10 years inside, and hard work by the **Justice For Women** group, her case was brought back to court and Emma was set free. It also seems possible that this judgement may set a precedent for woman serving time for defending themselves against asshole abusive men, having to fight a legal system biased against women, especially ones who don't bow down to the man-made rules.

Justice for Woman have contact with over 70 such woman in U.K jails. Contact them at **Justice For Woman, 55 Rathcoole Gdns, London N8 9NE.**

Sara Thornton was also freed at the end of July, on bail pending her appeal being referred back to the Appeal Court by Michael Howard. Sara was jailed for life after killing her violent abusive husband Malcolm. That she's been let out is a BRILL sign, hopefully she'll be free permanently. The *Daily Mail* has been waging a campaign against her,digging up dirt from her first husband and Malcolm Thornton's relatives, calling for her to be sent back etc. Someone should subject the Mail's editor and journo hacks to a campaign of years of mental and physical abuse, threats and beatings - if you ask me.

George Long was set free in July, after doing 16 years for somebody else's murder of a youth in Deptford, S.London. There was no evidence involved except for confessions made under pressure of repeated questioning. These confessions were quickly retracted. Said to be easily suggestible in his youth, George was easy prey for cops who fitted him into the picture and it took half of his life to prove his innocence.

Our best wishes to the above three and to everyone still inside, fighting the 'justice' system for their freedom.

For more info on prisoners and prisoners fightback, contact **London ABC, 121 Railton Rd, London SE24.** *Fax 0171-326-0353.*

• M11 PRISONERS GET 18 MONTHS

Jim Chambers and Stuart Edwards, long-term campaigners against the M11 in East London, have been found guilty of causing £35,000 worth of criminal damage to plant and machinery earlier this year. They have been sentenced to 18 months inside. They deny any involvement in the alleged crime.

Send letters of support to:
Jim Chambers PV2504 and Stuart Edwards, PB1864, both are being held in **Pentonville Prison, Caledonian Rd, London, N7 8TT.**

Also write to **MARK SKELLY, FH1589, HMP Brixton, Jebb Ave, LOndon, SW2:** Mark got 12 months for an aleged role in the Hyde Park anti-Criminal Justice riot last October.

McSHAMBLES

The battle against capitalist mega-nasty food giant McDonalds continues...Helen Steel and Dave Morris are still fighting a libel case from McDonalds after being sued for allegedly distributing London Greenpeace's famous leaflet calling attention to McDubious' exploitation of its workers, destruction of the environment, crap food and nastiness to animals. Despite being faced with a team of lawyers on up to £2000 a day, the company's massive resources, and legal bias, Helen and Dave are doing a great job (on their giros and much friendly support - no legal aid for libel cases). McPoison are in fact seemingly scared, despite massive campaigns to keep their image rosy, just the fact of going to court is starting to look bad for them with national media coverage airing their dirty er.. laundry..

LATEST TRICK

The company's latest trick is to withhold access to the defendants of trial transcripts, which the McLibelled can't afford to pay for (they cost £350 a day, unless you buy them 3 weeks later, by which time they're useless to the defendants. The McLibel Support Campaign are appealing for donations to try and cover some of the costs.

Contact them c/o 5 Caledonian road, London, N1. ***Tel/fax: 0171 713 1269.***

MEANWHILE...

A group of local anti-McDonalds protestors put paid to the filming of a McDeadly advert in Ruskin Park, Camberwell, S. London on 5-6 June. Film company Darryl Tate Associates hired out and prettied up a small part of the park to film Ronald McDonald being nice to mothers and children etc - but reckoned without Ronald being accompanied by spoilsports with placards and banners, getting in the way of the cameras etc. They successfully halted filming, while the luvvies and image creators tore their hair out, and the company, McDismal, Lambeth Council and the coppers failed to find any legal excuse to prevent local people using their own park for a friendly demo. Hopefully they cost the multinational robbers a bit of cash or at least the video production company prepared to propagandise McDangerous's deadly diet.

Any workers at McDonalds who want to do something about their shitty working conditions,low wages,and lack of rights, can contact - **McDonalds Workers Support Group, c/o Hackney TUSU,
Colin Roach Centre,
56 Clarence Rd, London, E5.**

SHOCK LATEST

80% of cops are killers

Police Commissioner Paul Condon's comments that '*80% of muggers are black*' only tells us something we already knew: the cops are out to get black people. People who think this is political paranoia could check out the story of a former trainee woman cop from Brixton published in a July issue of the usually hardcore reactionary paper, the South London Press. She was given the push for not nicking her quota of enough black people. What Condon's celebrated figures in fact say is that if you are a working class man then you've got a higher chance of being a mugger than if you're from Hampstead. Police intelligence must have had a hard time working that one out.

The climate of outrage among the black community has been also fuelled by the acquittal of the two immigration cops on trial for the murder of Joy Gardner. She was killed during a raid on her house in July 1993 when these cops taped her legs together and her mouth closed. She developed brain damage and died. The cops claimed that she was 'struggling violently'. Wouldn't you?

In mid-July, it was announced that no coppers would be charged over the death of Shiji Lapite, arrested by Stoke Newington officers in December '94. Throttled by cops, he died on the way to the station but the Crown Prosecution Service say there's no evidence. He was arrested after being said to have thrown away a bag of crack. Given Stokey cops dubious drug dealing history, it's hard to believe any of their drugs charges.

Following demos in May, a successful series of public meetings across London, a larger march to Kennington copshop on June 10th, and a (sadly small and left-dominated) march with the joy Gardner Campaign on 5th August, the family of Brian Douglas (another black man arrested and murdered by the filth) are involved in the planning of a national March For Justice on October 7th. Other campaigns and supporters involved include the Winston Silcott Defence Campaign and the Colin Roach Centre. For info and to get involved yourself,
Contact PO Box 858, London E9 3HU

- **Brian Douglas Campaign:** ***c/o 77a Atlantic Rd, Brixton, SW9 Tel: 0171-737-7790***
- **Colin Roach Centre** ***(campaigning for Shiji Lapite case), 56 Clarence Rd, London E5. Tel: 0181-533-7111***

. . . and on it goes

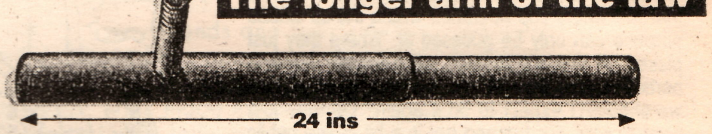
Friends and relatives of David Ewin, shot dead by police in Barnes, S.W London in February, have started a campaign for the suspension and charging with murder of the un-named cop who shot David and for the withdrawal of Paul Condon's public commendation to the mystery officer.

David was killed when the firearms unit copper fired at point blank range, claiming self-defence although David was un-armed. The cop claims he had clung onto the car David was driving and shot him to avoid being rammed between two other cars. Four eye-witnesses however have come forward to say that the car was at a halt after being blocked in and that the cop was standing alongside it, holding the gun steady in two hands, when he fired without a warning. Who can we possibly believe, readers? David died 17 days later in hospital having never regained consciousness. His widow, Sarah gave birth to their son just weeks later.

Alongside supporters from the Malcolm Kennedy and Patrick Quinn Campaigns, a public meeting was held in Hammersmith about David on July 24th and more actions are planned.There was also a thirty-strong picket of Hammersmith Police Station on Monday 7th August.The Kennedy/Quinn Campaign pickets this pigsty every month (see contacts).

***Justice for David Ewin Campaign,
PO Box 7839,
London,
SW15 4ZA.***
Tel 0973 402809

The longer arm of the law



SQUATTING LAW UPDATE

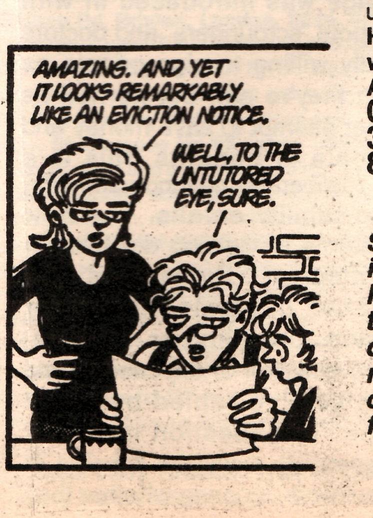
The long-awaited regulations for the new court procedures against squatting are finally coming thru on August 24th, and they're a massive climbdown from Howard's rant to the Tory faithful about wiping out squatting.

The new **Interim Possession Order (IPO)** hearings are not going to be "ex-parte" - meaning we can go along, file an affidavit (a statement - there's even a simple form to fill in) and answer questions about it. The opposition will not see the statement till afterwards, which gives us more scope.

Unfortunately you still have less notice of the court case (only 48 hours minimum) and if an IPO is granted you could get nicked for not moving out within 24 hours of the order being served. But the landlords should have to promise in court not to do anything to the premises or your possessions till a later, full court case, which is a terrible infringement of property rights and makes it a bit pointless from their perspective.

If they do try to use the new procedures there'll be plenty to argue about in court and we're bound to understand it better than them as usual.

Have a word with ASS on 0171 359 8814


AMAZING. AND YET IT LOOKS REMARKABLY LIKE AN EVICTION NOTICE.
WELL, TO THE UNTUTORED EYE, SURE.

Squatting is still legal, but that doesn't mean it can't be fun!!!

YOU ARE THE F.D.L.F

The provisional wing of the Fare Dodger's Liberation Front staged a dramatic second Tube Party on the Circle Line on the night of June 28th whereby 30 self-confessed fare dodgers ate, drank and were merry, distributed copies of the Artful Dodger #2 and plastered a whole carriage with balloons and streamers, stickers and graffiti.

oops ! BUSTED

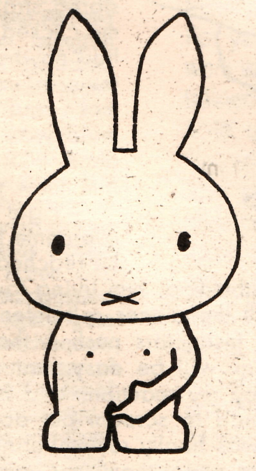
Free vegan choc cake, impromptu animal games and some on-platform yoga added to the enjoyment until some plainclothes stormtroopers from the Galactic Empire intervened and forced the party from the train and out of Victoria Station. A foolhardy but staunch attempt to re-assert F.D.L.F territory by barging back through the coppers led to scuffles and as more Evil Empire cops arrived, two F.D.L.F partygoers were arrested - one for assaulting an officer, the other for theft of a police radio. Needless to say both incidents were examples of British Transport police's creative imaginations. Truly, party pooped, some retired for the night, whilst others began the walk to the copshop to help the imprisoned. The next day, The Evening Standard reported that "(London Transport) believe passengers are no longer frightened by the £10 on-the-spot fine and are more than ever prepared to risk travelling without a ticket". Victory!!

PENALTY FARES ARE UNENFORCEABLE
fdlf

- Info, posters and stickers available from **F.D.L.F c/o 121 Railton Rd, London SE24 OLR.**

***contra*FLOW in SEX CAFE rumpus. Paper denounced as 'unsexy'**

"What does sexual deviancy mean? Is it better than "normal" sex? What if I'm content with "normal" sex — am I not radical then? Should I keep quiet about my desires if they might shock you ? If I think about it enough, will it make me want to do it? Are fantasies based on desire? Is a fantasy ever "wrong"? Are my desires my own or have they been fed to me — am I sexually brainwashed? Does the expressed acceptable sexual imagery around me sum up my desires? How much of my life is eroticised? Are male and female fantasies and desires the same? A world apart? If they are a world apart can I ever have a truly connected and satisfying heterosexual sexual relationship? Are sex and emotion connected? Separate? Is sex love? Solo sex - only a substitute for "real" sex, or "real" sex in and of itself? Is it to share with my partner, or only appropriate when I'm not in a relationship? Sex in a relationship — better than sex 'no strings attached'? The other way around? Are orgasms the be all and end all? Can I take them further? Make them better? Is it possible for me to de-emphasise them in my sexual encounters? Hetero, homo, bi-? Omni-sexual or just SEXUAL? Can I be one one day, another the next and yet another ten years from now? Will you let me without giving me shit? What if sex doesn't interest me, what if I don't feel sexual at all? Am I sexually open and free? Will I ever be sexually liberated? What __is__ sexual liberation? Does capitalism set the pace for the sexual revolution? If I love and kiss, play and fuck too much, will I forget about the class struggle? Why are some sex radicals I see so politically conservative? How do others from my class and from other classes experience their sexuality differently and similarly as me? Why are riots so erotic? Can I still be a feminist and have desires of submission and fantasies of rape? Will these disappear come revolucion glorioso? Will sexual play with power disappear in an anarchist society? What will sex look like in anarchy? Why is sex so fascinating? Why do we always seek it? Is it worth all the energy, time and thought put into it? Is it worth all this??? "



Miffy worked hard

- That was the sidebar text of the publicity leaflet produced for the ***contra*FLOW** benefit cafe we held on the 28th May at the sex parlour surroundings of the famous 121 Anarchist Centre in Brixton. In case you don't know, we have a benefit every last Sunday of the month there, each one with acts and food and videos based around a different theme. Anyway, May's cafe,(*trumpets sound !!!*) the **SEX CAFE**, was basically our attempt to out some anarchist sexual desire and perversion, get a little confessional thing going on, admit to some serious stuff, you know.

Early on, we decided that we were dead against the Sex Cafe re-inforcing traditional definitions and labels of sexuality, those descriptions of our sex-lives or our rigid political lifestyles that limit, mentally and physically, what exciting and weird sex antics we want to enjoy. It's important to us to understand that today we may enjoy fucking with men, with women another year, back to men on Monday, masturbating with our pillows all next year and then maybe giving it all up for stamp collecting or something. To aid this, we got together a bunch of videos and acts that talked it like they walked it . Sex is there, they said, most of us do it and most of us enjoy it, so why don't we ever loosen up and talk about it. If we're not getting any and that's driving us nuts then shouldn't we chat about that too? Just being able to spend six hours in a place where you were encouraged to let it all hang out, verbally or literally, is such a refreshing change. For once, we could talk openly about our sexy desires and realities and not be embarrassed or feel politically wrong or judged by our 'scene' and that's a time spent feeling empowered, temporarily free from the gossips, the rumour-mongers, the cynics, the be-littlers who seem to have a problem with our self-expression.

Watching the comfort levels of people dealing with our in-your-face style was fascinating. Some people just handled the '***contra*FLOW** Benefit Hand-Jobs...only 5 quid' sign, others were a bit disturbed. Some people sniggered alot, others got into the spirit of it all. In the end, no one rung the bell for a session so we didn't have to bluff our way through that and no-one paid 50p for a peep at our ***contra*FLOW** members live sex act despite it really happening in a discrete silk-lined booth below the stairs. You blew it folks, and so did we!! Other ***contra*FLOW** members got to consider a change of career too with their sterling performance as The Anarko-Dales, the lithe young anarchist idealist dance troupe that whipped the crowd up into a virtual sneeze with their sexy strip show. Masked-up anarchist boys may never seem sexy again. Wah! A load of people sat quite happily through the hour long video of male genital massage or the Betty Dodson art of female masturbation film. Annie Sprinkle's 'Sluts And Goddesses' movie with it's six minute orgasms, female ejaculation and polysexual perversity went down well too. Another ***contra*FLOW** member sung a song about inadequecy, some poets did some...er, poems and some folks did sexy readings too. We even had a couple of serious workshops, one for men and one for women. The men ummed and ahhed around the question of *'love, sex and emotions - what do men really want want and is that alright?'* , trying to hide the issues in a cloud of class analysis (but that was stamped on after half an hour!) whilst the women's discussion on *'fakin' it, wanking it and other secrets'* remained fairly reserved, some saying they had a difficult time opening up to strangers about such personal issues. Two self-defined feminist women discussed their experience of rape fantasy role play, and whether it contradicted their feminist attack on patriarchy or their anarchist critique of power.

The lack of interesting confessions garnered in our sex survey that we hassled every attendee to anonymously fill in was disappointing although we had fun reading out some of the answers as a final 'entertainment'. Who indeed borrowed a certain Abba LP when they were young just so they could masturbate over the girls in the band's picture (They admitted that they never even played the record) ? Who was it that scored at a out-of-doors political event , blissfully fucking under the moon and stars? and who amongst us concluded that a "revolution" is all that is necessary to sort out our sexual problems?

Anyway, it was a challenge to organise and we had a load of fun. It didn't get bogged down in detail or too 'shock-horror...aren't we so cool' either. We wanted the cafe and the questions above to kick in a little something to our weirdly repressed society and 'scene', to free up a little time and space in our heads about our desires and fetishes and to jig around with the things that 'revolutionary' debates around sexuality don't usually encompass. If you missed it, you missed a good effort. Thanks to those that came.

STREETLIFE

In recent months residents round the Streatham area of South London have been actively campaigning to get rid of prostitutes who solicit for trade in several streets round the area, and the kerbcrawlers they attract. The prostitutes, who've been using the area for several years; locals say the kerbcrawlers harass any women in the area, that kids have been picking up used condoms and hypodermics, and have been constantly propositioned.,people are always finding people having sex in their gardens...After years of putting pressure on the police, residents got pissed off with it in June and Streatham Against Kerbcrawlers and residents groups started to block off roads and prevent people driving through their area.Naturally this annoyed the coppers who don't like to see anyone taking matters into their own hands.The cops have harassed demonstrators and added to the problem by interrogating young women residents walking in the area.

The campaign raises alot of questions, and is full of contradictions. On the one hand, a good deal of the pressure seems to be of the Not in My Back Yard, middle class, protect-my- property-prices variety. They have the backing of local councillors (tories and liberals), local bigwigs, the South London Press, their MP etc: it's partly a very establishment- backed campaign. The thrust of it has also been 'Make the police do a proper job'. Theirs seems to be a limited aim of pushing the problem somewhere else. It's hard to tell how much of a moral outrage, anti-sex tone there is, (but since this is a fairly typical british suburban attitude, it's bound to be in there):it's also anyone's guess how many of the men involved have visited prostitutes themselves but don't want it" going on on their doorstep."

On the other had, residents have been quoted saying they are not against the women, they just don't want to deal with the problems, and some voices raised saying the women should have legal brothels and safe places to work. Even a local tory councillor has said it should be legal (and taxable of course!) It's good that people recognise that the prostitutes are just trying to make a living, selling their labour like everyone else. And living in redlight areas CAN be a pain in the arse: sleazy men abusing every woman on the streets, always coppers driving about. Although its also important to point out that this is NOT limited to red-light areas: it happens in __most__ neighbourhoods, and it's crap to blame the sex workers themselves for situations created by a fucked-up society where sex is on sale and exploited like everything else.

But it's difficult to see what there can be in the way of a permanent solution. Prostitution will always exist in a money economy (probably longer). Even the stopgap solution of getting the women 'off the streets' and licensing brothels, etc, is unlikely to end soliciting in the street. Brothels, sex lines,and such exist at the minute but not every man who wants to pay for sex is prepared to use them. From the point of view of the women themselves, though, this could certainly make life sAfer from the aggro of arrest and the attentions of the numerous psychos and vicious men who see prostitutes as fair game. This is not a small consideration, since they do face alot of abuse and violence; however there seems to be few people listening to what they might have to say.

Legalisation is also unlikely to happen in the current climate of moral repression.Like other 'fringe economy' trade like petty theft, drugs, stolen goods etc, it often leads to people in areas getting pissed off that 'they are having to suffer'. But pushing them onto another community seems a small-minded way of dealing with it. It's interesting to see people organising themselves and blocking roads: but the protests have stopped since the cops promised tougher action. Although the cops claim to be targetting kerbcrawlers, it always seems to be the women themselves getting nicked: pimps are left alone. Meanwhile richer men can always afford safer and more expensive surroundings if they want to buy someone's services. There's no easy solution, while sex, like everything else is regulated by money and the law, and while sexual repression and a desire for excitement, power over women, anonymous sex or whatever (mostly products of our fucked-up society and attitude to sex) leads men to turn to prostitutes. Targeting the women is just a way of shoving the problem out of sight. A good old british way of dealing with the problem.

- We talked to the **English Collective of Prostitutes**, who made the following statement on proposals on the legalisation of brothels and the abolition of laws on prostitution:

"The English Collective of Prostitutes is opposed to state-run 'legalised prostitution', including 'toleration zones', which would segregate sex workers off from the rest of the community, and do nothing to protect women from violence. They are calling for abolition of the prostitution laws. This would remove prostitution from the criminal law, thus for the first time disentangling consenting sex, which should not be the business of the law, from offenses of nuisance, which existing legislation on nuisance or public order is well able to deal with. Abolition would also undermine the need for red-light areas, as women be able to advertise and work from premises. Abolition of the laws is the only way to end the criminalisation and stigmatisation of prostitute women and men. Sex workers like other workers should come under civil not criminal law and have their rights recognised and protected. "

• Contact the English Collective of Prostitutes,
c/o Kings Cross Women's Centre, (mailing address):
PO Box 287, London, NW6 5QU. Tel: 0171 837 7509.

DOWN IN THE TUBE STATION AT MIDNIGHT...

ContraFLOW spoke to a London underground station assistant, about the job, the aggro, faredodging, and the current prospects for strikes on the tube..

C/F: Tell us a bit about your job.

Barrier Benni:I work as a station assistant at a mainline station in central London. I represent London Underground's facade of customer care - that means giving directions, telling people to get onto trains - but we don't even get to collect tickets anymore - The job satisfaction is amazing! [not]

Much of the work is on the barrier line. About 1 in 3 of the tickets will get thrown back - the magnetic strip gets damaged - even with the new gates. When the gates finally get made to work then we'll probably all get sacked - then the underground will be really safe!

Most of the shifts are during the week, the tube is really only there to get people to work - so at weekends there's only skeleton shifts.

C/F:What about safety conditions on the system?

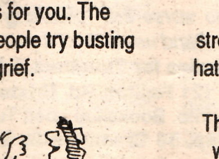
BB:From the escalators which can rip off a strip of your flesh if you fall down on them, to the old style gates that can smash a child's head like it was a melon - yelp the whole system is really unsafe.

C/F:Does your job involve 'revenue protection'?

BB:Well there isn't any really - even though the codes show if a ticket is out of date or out of zone, there's no way our management would know that we're letting people through if only they'd come up and talk to us and say they haven't got the money. I've asked around, and reckon that 8 out of 10 station assistants would just open the gates for you. The problem is if people try spinning a line about their dead budgie, that really gets on your nerves. Or if people try busting through the gates - once after 3 people busted through the gates,a manager came out and gave me grief.

C/F:What about your shifts?

BB:Well the start times vary from 3.45 in the morning to 4.45 in the afternoon. because I'm on a temporary contract, I only get notice of which shift I'm working the Thursday before the Sunday. that means my social life is affected because I can't organise anything - the shift from late shifts to early shifts is fucking awful too...But my social life is also affected by the Underground's drug and alcohol policy. They do 'random' drugs tests a few time a year. And they target known boozers or people they don't like for alcohol breath tests - you can't drink 8 hours before a shift and not more than 3 pints [for men] in the 12 hours before that. It's draconian. One guy I know got tested 5 times in a year....The other thing is that the operation rooms are bugged - supposedly in case of an accident - but we know the supervisors haven't got anything better to do than to listen in on us.


EVERYBODY BACK!

C/F:You said that you're on a temporary contract - what does that mean?

B.B: Well at my station about 20% of us are on these temporary contracts - that means we get fewer rest days, less time off sick, much heavier penalties for being late and are not allowed to take industrial action ...

C/F:But you're allowed to join the union ...

B.B:Yeah - but the only point of being in the union is to go out on strike he? The union doesn't tell us anything. The other workers at the station - well - 90% of them are in the union but they're mostly into it for the pension scheme. They may be suss on management but they're not aware of their potential...It was only the RMT strike ballot on the tube that was lost, not on the tubes. When the RMT comes out on the Tube the whole city will be lost in the chaos. Then how much money will the City lose?

C/F;So what do you see as the potential in this industrial action?

B.B:Well there's no feel for revolutionary politics amongst most people at the moment. But,strikes help - they show people who the enemy is. And when management try to victimise strikers the anger grows. As for me, my union has told me to stay at work. I'll have to go slow - but I'm not sure how to go any slower than I do at the moment. For instance, if I work to rule the system won't work - like - I'm meant to be no more than 5 seconds away from the plunger opener for the gates - but if I did that the gates would always be open.

C/F: So the strikes are controlled by the leadership?

B.B:Yes, there no real rank and file movement - these one day strikes are almost self defeating - they give management time to prepare. Still its better than nothing. Anyway the Tube management will try and settle this dispute to protect the City.

EVERYBODY OUT!

C/F:So what can users do?

B.B:The most important thing is to vocalise your support for us. For instance, this women came through and after that this co - worker of mine changed his mind and decided to come out in the next strike. Also, just not using the services on strike days is really important - there will be services but they'll be even more unsafe than usual - and way understaffed according to the Underground rules.

C/F:So how do we stop the services?

B.B:Well, the staffing will be done by management and Revenue Control - we need strong picket lines - it's possible but the politicisation has to be raised - but it's not that big a step most workers hate the management and the rich bastards who give us grief. The problem is that there's not enough agitators on the system.

The other problem is that there's all the typical confused working class sentiments. like even though black and white workers will get on really well, white workers will still come out with garbage about immigration or racist ethnic stereotypes. Then there's the sexism on the system - which is abysmal. Often it's no more than banter - an you can turn it back on them...There's also the issue of getting assaulted at work. despite the posters management doesn't give a shit. Women are less likely to get hit but when it does happen - well like for me, I'm not normally passive but I just froze... It's also true that every day we run the system ourselves - most workers will help each others out - not from philanthropy - but like because we know that one day we'll be on the barrier line duty all day too

C/F:Any helpful Fare Dodging tips?

B.B:Well as I said busting through the gates is a pain - but if you've got a shitty station assistant, the luggage gate isn't screwed on or anything - just held on with magnets - so give it a good kick and it'll swing. The other thing is that when you go through on the same ticket - you can't leave any space between you and the first person - stick together and the machine just thinks that you're a large customer.

C/F:And any good stories to finish off?

B.B:Yeah - the last BR strike was a hoot. Came 5.00 and this station I know about was so packed it had to be closed down - anyway all these suits tried shoving each other and the station assistants out of the way. Anyway then, this mob of suits formed up and started to break into the station managers office - It was great to see our managers cowering!

what's on

THE CONTRAFLOW CALENDAR

This issue's calendar is smaller than normal, due to many folk being on holiday (wish I was!), . Send us in any dates of your upcoming actions, demos, parties, & other fun times, for the next issue by the end of September.

AUGUST

- **Mon 21**. Homeless Information Project Workshop: setting up homeless self-help groups. 2pm, HIP, 612 Old Kent Rd, London, SE15.Tel 0171 27 7639.
- **Thurs 24.** SQUASH action against the introduction of Interim Possession Orders, (see article). Tel them on 0171 226 8938
- **Sun 26**. ContraFLOW Benefit cafe at 121 Centre (see contacts). This month's theme: Japan(?!). Saki and sushi for all ! 3 -9pm.
- **Thurs 31**. Sinn Fein Rally , to mark 1 year of the IRA ceasefire, & to demand that the british govt stops stalling. Trafalgar Square, WC2. 7pm.

SEPTEMBER

- **Fri 1**. Benefit for *Saoirse*, with the Blarney Pilgrims and guests speakers. Haringey irish Centre, Pretoria Rd, London, N17. 8-1. £6
- **and**...South London Critical Mass (mass bike traffic disruption). Meet 6pm, at the Windmill Pub, Clapham Common, SW4. And first friday of every month.
- **and** Action against GEC (multinational/UK arms makers) Annual General Mtg. Tel CAAT, 0171 281 0297.
- **1-3**: 'Dance Action Weekend', supposedly parties in defiance of the CJA in every county in the UK. Keep your eyes peeled and your dancing shoes handy. Tel Freedom Network.
- **Sat 2**. *Saoirse* Conference on irish prisoners of war and the future. Caxton House, St. John's Way, London, N19. 1-6pm. Tel 0181 985 8250 for more info
- **Sat 2.** London organising meeting against Jobseekers Allowance. 2pm, 121 Centre, (see contacts).
- **Sun 3**. Newham anti racist festival - Canning Town Rec. Ground off Newham Way E16. 1pm till dusk. Fun Da Mental, Kalpihz, Urban Shakedown, Julisa, Soul II Soul, DJs.
- **and**...Campaign Against the Arms Trade march, in Aldershot, against UK arms fair. Meet 12 noon, Municipal Gardens, Aldershot, for march, remembrance ceremony for those killed by british arms, and non-violent invasion of arms fair. Tel CAAT 0171 281 0297.
- **Mon4** (& first Mon every month). Picket of Hammersmith Copshop, Shepherds Bush Rd, W6, 6-7pm :Justice for Pat Quinn, Free Malcolm Kennedy .
- **Tues 5** (and every Tuesday), protests against french nuke tests in the Pacific. Protest at french embassy, 58 Knightsbridge, SW1, 5-7.30pm. The tests start in September.
- **Thurs 7**. .Anarchist Communist Federation Open Discussion: 'What's Wrong with the Unions?'. Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont St, WC1. 8pm.
- **and** ... action planned at defence forces equipment exhibition - call 0171 281 0297.
- **Fri 8**. Meeting to launch anti-fascist Unity Committee, with refugee, community, anti-racist and political groups. 7.30pm, Aloysius Hall, Eversholt St, Euston Rd, NW1.
- **Sat 9**. 'Festival of Global Rights' (?), Brockwell Park, Brixton, SE24. Tel Freedom Network 0171 501 9253 for info.
- **and**...Benefit for the Freedom Network, at Cooltan, 372 Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, SW9. No details yet. Tel their events line.
- **Mon 11**. Picket the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, EC1. Demanding long sentence for the racist responsible for death of Donna O'Dwyer and the injury of many other black people, after he firebombed a party in Leyton. Leyton Race Attacks Supp Grp, 0181 5480268.
- **Sat 16**. Cannabis/Hemp Conference. All about the practical uses of hemp and the, er, medicinal value of cannabis. Somewhere in Kentish Town, NW5. Tel 0171 613 5166.
- **and**...Public Meeting Against Racism & Fascism. Called by Colin Roach Centre, turkish and refugee grps, YRE and others. 1-4pm, Aloysius Hall, Eversholt St, NW1
- **Wed 20**. Colin Roach Centre Public Meeting, "Can Police be made Accountable?". 7.30 pm, Halkevi Centre, 92-100 Stoke Newington Rd, N16.CF says: "We doubt it".
- **Sat 23.** National CAAT action against Landmines. Tel 0171 281 0297.
- **Sun 24.** ContraFLOW benefit cafe at 121 Nosh, booze and good crack. 3-9pm.

OCTOBER

- **Thurs 5**. Anarchist Communist Fed. Open Discussion: "Counter Culture or Resistance?". 8pm, Marchmont Ctty Ctr, Marchmont St, WC1.
- **Sat 7.** Massive 'Justice demo': justice for people framed/killed/attacked by the police, planned. March from Stoke Newington to Tottenham Copshops. Probably assembling Hackney Downs, 12.30 pm. Contact the organisers at the Colin Roach Centre (see contacts) or YRE on 0181 533 4533. Get involved, help to make the march BIG.
- **Thurs 12.** National day aof action in solidarity with McDonalds workers (3rd anniversary of death of Mark Hopkins, electrocuted in a McDonalds in Manchester. Tel 0171 7131269.
- **Sat 14.** National day of action against detention of refugees and asylum seekers. There will be local demos at Immigration Detention Centres and prisons. PLUS on either the **13th or 14th** Home Scumbag Michael Howard will be announcing new immigration legislation at the tory conference...Whenever it is, there will be a demo at the conference in Blackpool, and a demo at the Home Office in London. Tel CARF on 0171 837 1450 or Campaign Against Campsfield 01865 724452 for more info.
- **Sun 15.** World anti-McDonalds Day: Actions and demos against McFilth, do yer own.
- **Mon 16.** Race and Class conference, in evening and University of London Union, Malet St, WC1. 'Race, Class and Black Struggle". Speakers include US black activists, Campaign Against Racism & Facism, Race and Class.Topics include 'Black and third world unity', 'Black Power today', 'Rebuilding the movement'. Tel 0171 837 0041.
- **Fri 20.** Satpal Ram, jailed for the killing in self-defence of a racist attacker, has his appeal against conviction after nine years of struggle. Big picket of the High Court, the Strand, London, WC1, from 10am. Everyone should be there for that one.
- **Sat 28.** Anti-Corporations Fayre, 11-8, Conway Hall, London, WC1. Stalls, discussions, videos, music, food, drink, creche, animals. To expose the bastards that run our lives and wreck our health/environment and share ideas on getting rid of 'em and running our world our way. Contact London Greenpeace, 5 Caledonian Rd, N1, tel/fax 0171 713 1269.
- **and** National demo against education cuts. Central London.
- **Sun 29**. ContraFLOW benefit cafe, 121 Centre, 3-9pm. The only place to be.

NOVEMBER

- **Sat 4.** Organising meeting of new network of local groups against immigration detentions. In London,the venue isn't yet sorted. Tel CARF on 0171 837 1450, to get involved.
- **Sun 12**. Demos to stop sale of Hawk fighter planes to Indonesia. Tel CAAT 0171 281 0297.

REGULAR EVENTS

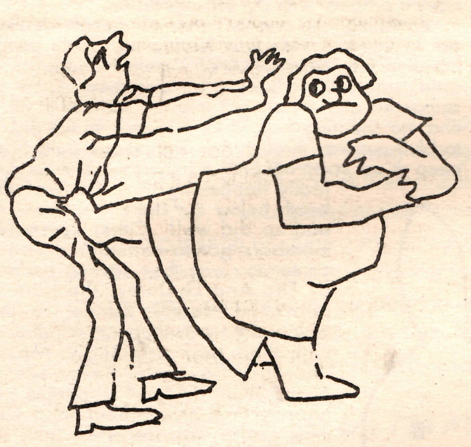
- **Every Monday and Friday**: direct action against the M11 link in East London. Meet 11am at Wanstead Environmental Ctr (see contacts).
- **Every Tues & Thurs,** 7pm: 121 Cafe, 121 Railton Rd, Brixton, London SE24. Dead cheap vegan food. Plus radical video nights Mondays, 7pm.
- **Every Thursday**: radical queers OutRage meet, 7.30, YWCA Central Club, 16-22 Gt Russell St, WC1.
- **First Saturday of each month**: Dead By Dawn,speedcore/techno party at 121 Centre. Discussion at 9pm; dancing 11pm till light.
- **Last Friday of every month**: Critical Mass: cyclists & skateboarders take over central London streets. .5.45pm, NFT Piazza, South Bank, SE1
- **Last Saturday of every month**: demos at Campsfield Immigration Detention Centre, near Kidlington, Oxfordshire. 12 noon.
- Freedom Network events line: tel. **0171 501 9253.** Actions, parties and more.

• WOMEN FIGHTBACK

is the contraFLOW column dedicated to true stories of personal, heroic 'fightback' experiences by women. Send in your victories against a misogynist boss, fucked political comrade or abusive scumbag for inclusion in a future issue c/o K.M at contraFLOW. You can be phoned if you'd rather just tell your story rather then write it out. Keep on fighting back.

emily's story

"I was visiting some friends in Los Angeles and decided to go for a jog. It was getting near dusk and I found my way to a park that my friends had warned me against, saying it was dangerous, gang-banger hell. I totally hate feeling restricted from any place and especially hate letting fear control me so I went anyway. (I still hate letting fear control me.) The park was all overgrown and covered with seemingly hundreds of little paths leading to who-knows-where. I guess alot of homeless people made their homes in all the bushes and nooks and crannies. At the time I started my jog though, I didn't really see any people. It felt pretty abandoned.



At some point while running down one of these overgrown trails I got this creepy sensation about me. ("*Trust your instincts,*" self-defence classes teach.) I thought, "If I were to ever get raped, here..." I came to a dead end and swung around to head back and at that moment a guy jumped out of some brush about 50 meters in front of me, stood in the narrow path, hands on his hips, and stared straight at me. Something inside me clicked and I knew t-h-i-s w-a-s i-t. I had nowhere else to run so I ran straight toward him hoping when I got there he'd move and let me pass, all the while my mind was thinking a hundred things at once. *"Stare him in the eyes, don't let him know you're scared. Fight!"*

I got up to him, really terrified but overcome by a survival instinct and when he reached out and grabbed me I knew I had to resist. It was beyond frightening, him trying to wrestle me to the ground and me kicking and hitting him in all the places self-defence instructors say don't work. (But the main thing self-defence instructors push is that resisting *at all* is vital, that rapists look for victims they think will be easy, non-resisting.) He wasn't saying anything but seemed surprised by my reaction, and he started hitting me back but seemed confused by it. I wanted to scream but absolutely could not. At some moment, about the same time I was finally remembering some flickers of self-defence moves (but still not being able to enact them) my voice kicked in and I just started screaming "***I'm going to kill you motherfucker!***" and things like that. I think that scared him because it might have attracted attention if anyone was around to hear it and he finally let me go and backed off, hands above his head in a show of surrender.

I ran off and was in a completely freaked out state, not believing that that had just happened to me and not knowing what I should do about it. In my fucking oh-so-political way, I decided not to call the cops because *I don't believe in that system of 'justice'*, and because it might have meant the end of alot of people's homes in their shanties or whatever in the park with the guy probably not getting caught anyway. In the end I felt satisfied that I had fought him off and thought that might have scared him enough to never try attacking another woman again. He truly looked more terrified by my response in the end than I think I even felt. I only wish I had got it together to make warning fliers to other women to post around the park, but I didn't.

On a final note, as a matter of mental self-preservation, about an hour later after I had calmed down a bit five of my friends and I went back to the park and exact spot of the attack (it was dark by now), me with a baseball bat and a stance that said *"I will maim you bad if you are here."* I didn't think he'd be there but I just needed to be back there to reclaim my space I think. It made me feel strong. The not-good bit was the reaction I got from so many friends and family when I told them about it, lots of folks saying *"You shouldn't have been running alone in such a place."* (I should do whatever I want to.) This reaction even came from anarchos and feminists, people who should have known better. This made me feel super crap, was the only cause of any of the tears I shed over it. I wish folks could figure it out."

Arresting Publications

- ***Squatting Is Still Legal no,2***, leaflet from ASS and SQUASH, gives the lowdown on the new I.P.O's. Available from ASS, 2 St Paul's Rd, London, N1.
- ***Schnews***, c/o On the Fiddle, PO Box 2600, Brighton. Weekly anti-Criminal Justice Act news-sheet. Send SAE.. eg 4th August issue Brighton's West Pier squatted, prisoner special,update on "The Mother'.
- ***Between the Lines***, Box 30, 136 Kingsland High St, London, E8. Interesting 'non-sectarian' leftwing magazine: produced by socialists in and out of organisations. Raises good points about the state of the 'left'. Available in lefty bookshops.
- ***The Prisoner***, PO Box 6366, London, E5 0XB. Free London mag,part subversive politics, part music and 'zine' reviews, part counterculture ad-space. (Not a serious rival to Contraflow, of course).5 subs gets you 6 issues, but look out for it around.
- ***CS Gas and the Use of force***, BM Makhno, London, WC1N 3XX. Free leaflet on the Met tooling up with CS gas, & what to do if gassed/how to protest yourself. Send SAE/donation for copies and pass it about.
- ***Taking Liberties***, c/o London ABC, 121 Railton road, London SE24.Latest news on prisoners, prison struggles, writings by prisoners on the system, etc. Subs 5 waged, 3 unw., for 4 issues. ABC also produce the free booklet, **'No Comment: the Defendants Guide to Arrest'**; what happens when you're nicked and what (not) to say. SAE/donations, say if you want a few copies to give to your mates.

Aufheben No.4, Prior Hse, Tilbury Place, Brighton, BN2 (1.50 + SAE) stunningly positive an decent-bodied analysis of the anti-CJA 'movement' and it's future(although some here disagree but I'm doing the typing, so there!) Lots more stuff on 'decadence', primitivism too.

Contacts:

You could do worse than checking these groups out if anything we ever report tickles your probably well-worn fancy. Know what I mean ! Send us an SAE if you want a more complete list of London rebels.

- **Advisory Service for Squatters**, 2 St Paul's Rd, London, N1.6pm.useful practical advice, the law etc.
- **121 Centre, 121 Railton Rd, Brixton, London, SE24. 071 274 6655.** Squatted anarchist space: bookshop, meetings, parties, squatting, free info. Bookshop open Tues/Thurs 6-9pm & Sat, 1-5pm. Cafes,Video nights(see Regular events).Plus much more.
- **56a Info Shop, 56 Crampton St, London SE17.** Squatted radical bookshop and more. Open Mon.Thurs,Fri, 3-7pm. Action, books, mags, records, posters and cool reading space full of current and obscure @ mags and booklets.
- **75@ Squat Centre, 75A Mildmay Park N1,** vegan caff , Wed - Sun 7pm and much much more.
- **Colin Roach Centre, 56 Clarence Rd E5** Space uniting Hackney Trade Union Support Unit, Hackney Community Defence Campaign, and other local revos and activists. Tel 0181 533 7111
- **Direct Action Network (London and national contact), 3 Crawley Rd, Wood Green, London N22 6AN.** Tel/FAX 081 889 1361. Disability rights organisation, militant and regularly out on the street. Produce newsletter.
- **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), BM Box 4529, London WC1N 3XX.** Active again, especially amongst despatch, education and unemployed workers. Coming soon to an industry near you.
- **Haringey Solidarity Group, PO Box 2474, London, N8 0HW.** Involved in community/social struggles, produce brilliant local 'Community Action' newsletter(next one out early Sept). Planning local action against Jobseekers Allowance.
- **The Red and Black Club**, south-east London's anarcho-syndicalist group, has been forced to give up its centre in Deptford, due to financial pressure. They are taking stock of the situation, and hope to be carrying on their activities, but have nowhere to go as yet. They can be contacted via BM Hurricane, London, WC1N 3XX. Don't send anything more to their old address.
- **Wanstead Environmental Centre,1a Wanstead High St, Wanstead, E. London.**Organising base for anti-M11 roadlink and other struggles. Drop in.
- **Lesbian Avengers, meet every Tuesday, 7pm, at The WHEEL, 4 Wild Court, London, WC1.** "Non-violent direct action group committed to raising lesbian visibility and fighting for our survival and rights." Have carried out brill actions against bigots in Hackney Council, the Children's Society, the Sunday Times, and others. Go for it !